ORDINANCE NO. 23-335

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A CABLE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP AND COMCAST OF PENNSYLVANIA, LLC

WHEREAS, pursuant to Title VI of the Communications Act, the regulations of the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") and Pennsylvania law, the Township is authorized to grant and renew franchises to construct, operate and maintain a Cable System utilizing Public Rights-of-Way and properties within the Township's jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, Comcast currently holds a cable franchise from the Township by virtue of a cable franchise agreement which expires on September 7, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Comcast has requested that the Township renew Comcast's franchise to maintain, construct, operate, and maintain its Cable System over, under and along the aforesaid rights-of-ways for use by the Township's residents; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid Public Rights-of-Way used by Comcast are public properties acquired and maintained by the Township on behalf of the citizens of the Township, and the right to use said rights-of-way is a valuable property right; and

WHEREAS, the Township desires to protect and manage the aforesaid rights-of-way, establish standards of Subscriber service, maintain a technologically advanced Cable System, receive Franchise Fees for Comcast's use of the Township's public rights-of-ways as provided by federal law, obtain the use of an educational and governmental channel, establish certain reporting requirements, provide legal protections for the Township's and meet the current and future cable-related needs of its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Township held a public hearing on the subject of cable franchise renewal, including reviewing the cable operator's past performance and identifying the Township's future cable-related community needs; and

WHEREAS, the Township has determined that this Agreement and the process for consideration of this Agreement complies with all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Township, after affording the public notice and opportunity for comment, has determined that the public interest would be served by renewing Comcast's franchise according to the terms and conditions contained herein; and

WHEREAS, the Township has determined that Comcast has the financial, legal and technical ability to provide Cable Services to Subscribers located in the Township;

NOW THEREFORE, **BE IT ORDAINED** that the Township Board of Supervisors does hereby approve the cable franchise agreement negotiated with Comcast, including all of the terms and conditions contained therein, and does hereby authorize the execution of such agreement.

ENACTED AND ORDAINED this 8th day of May, 2023.

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY

Carolyn McCreary, Secretary

Candyce Fluehr Chimera Chair, Board of Supervisors